

GENERAL SHERMAN'S MOVEMENT.

THREE DAYS OF SKIRMISHING.

ALL OUR CORPS PARTICIPATE.

THE REBELS DRIVEN NEARLY TO DALTON.

Our Army Driving Them all the While.

To the Associated Press.

TUSKEL HILL, Ga., Wednesday, May 11, 1864.
After three days' heavy skirmishing, in which all the corps participated, we have driven the Rebels back to Rocky Ridge and Buzzard Roost Mountain, from which we are fast expelling them.
Everything is going on in a most satisfactory way.

The Forward Movement—Situation of the Army—Position of the Enemy—Topography of the Country—Condition of the People.

From Our Special Correspondent.

RED CLAY, Ga., May 5, 1864.
There are signs of an early movement of this wing of the army. All surplus baggage, by order from Corps Headquarters, has been sent to the rear. The troops and arms were inspected to-day, and fresh ammunition distributed. The railroad from Cleveland, which is completed to within two miles of the Georgia line, is loaded with war bringing down supplies and forage. In a few days the road will be completed for several miles further. The 4th Army Corps has advanced to Ringgold, where Gen. Howard probably now has his headquarters. Gen. McPherson was reported at Lafayette, Ala., on Friday last, advancing on Rome. We have the Rebel pickets within three or four miles of this side of Kennon's Plantation. There are also Rebel pickets on the Charleston and Dalton Road, at Barrett's Mill, and other places.

It has been several weeks since the Rebels permitted any citizen to pass through their lines, and every one going to Dalton on business has been detained. Some citizens strayed unconsciously into our lines to-day, and very much to their chagrin, and themselves trapped and unable to return home.
The main road to Dalton nearest to us passes through a gap in the ridge about a mile to the south of this point, which also forms the passage of a fine little stream called Mill Creek, which flows into the tributaries of the Alabama River. All streams in this region, on which there are mills, are called "Mill Creek." Beside the road on which our troops are located, there are two or three running at slightly diverging lines northward from Dalton toward the Hiwassee River, each separated from the other by ridges, and knobby, rough lines of hills. The first of these is only about a mile to the eastward of this, from which we are divided by the ridge known as Red Clay, which gives the name to this portion of the northern line of Georgia. It is called the Charleston and Dalton road. Beyond a second ridge is the Coahulla road, which forks from the Charleston road six miles from Dalton. Then there is a third road leading to the Ducktown Copper Mines, and formerly used for hauling the ore to Dalton. Still beyond, at a distance of ten miles from this point, runs the Old Federal Road between the Hiwassee and Spring Place. All these roads are at present accessible to the Rebel troops, and may be worth our while to watch, as bodies of cavalry might move upon either of them without observation if they were disposed to operate upon our left and rear.

The land in this region is poor, yielding only ten bushels of corn and two to four bushels of wheat the acre. The poor people's farms average 30 to 40 acres, and some of them yield a comfortable support for a family. This class stay at home, and content themselves with the product of their own estates. Above them, however, has been the class of nabobs, who own land by the mile square, and once had unnumbered negroes to work their plantations. These men came up from Southern Georgia when the Cherokees were removed, and took up large tracts, retaining their cotton and rice lands and rich plantations in the Southern counties for winter residences. Among these nabobs was Peyton Wade, who owned 2,000 acres, or more, and 300 negroes. None of these rebels are now under cultivation. Another was O. H. Kennon, who was a Rebel ten years ago—now dead. He owned 2,500 acres and 50 to 60 negroes, who he once freed by will, and afterward transferred with his lands and other property to his relatives. He had no children. His taxable property here, not to mention that "away down in Georgia," was \$100,000. On these plantations it was not uncommon to see 100 acres planted in sweet potatoes, and 100 acres in peanuts, used for fattening hogs. One planter used to sow 250 bushels of wheat, 600 bushels of oats, put in 500 acres in corn, beside 250 acres in cotton. Then 500 acres would be set apart to the negroes for "truck patches" to work Sundays. Such was the magnificent style in which the wealthy planters used to spread themselves in the good old times, now forever gone by. Their broad acres will pass into the hands of the thirty and forty-acre farm men, and be better cultivated upon the system of small valleys. During the march through the Tennessee Valley I met with few cases where the farmers desired to part with their lands and seek their fortunes elsewhere. Here there are few who would not sell out cheap, provided they could find purchasers. During the Rebel occupation of Missionary Ridge this whole region was ransacked for corn and provisions, and the country was laid bare. There is here the same state of things that exists in the opposite (west) end of the Valley, though the farm inclosures and houses have not suffered to the same extent. Some tolerably good houses have been deserted, and little of the land comparatively well cultivated. All the young men and boys have been conscripted, and there are none left to work the land except the old men and women.

FROM CAIRO AND BELOW.
Mississippi Navigation in Jeopardy—Refugees Still Coming—Barbarities in Arkansas—Cotton in Cairo—Frank Blair—Gunboats.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CAIRO, May 9, 1864.
News of disaster and trouble come from below. The Rebels hope to control the navigation of the Mississippi. Such is the nature of the country bordering this river from Cairo to New Orleans that its navigation is not secured by occupying its banks. The party holding the river must also hold the strategic points back of the swamps, one of which is Little Rock; Alexandria is another. At present we are threatened with being driven to the river bank. The last disaster was the capture of an empty supply train by Marmaduke, returning from Camden to Pine Bluff, and also the capture of the 10th and 5th Illinois, 3rd Missouri, and 6th Missouri, which were mostly killed, wounded, or made prisoners. There were 240 wagons and about 700 mules and horses. Gen. Steele's land transportation being destroyed, he cannot move from the Arkansas River. Many things result from the defeat of Gen. Banks from fighting battles in detail.

Merriwell's every movement of either army in the South West is followed by crowds of refugees. Those for the Union flee before the Rebel Army, those in favor of the South flee from conscription—and both flee in the same direction. The Army next best to the Rebel Army, trained long over by armies, and no encouragement remaining for the planters to raise food, even if labor itself were not disorganized, large sections are returning to the uncultivated state.
Large numbers of refugees now consist of able-bodied men belonging to the Rebel Army. Many never were in this army, but they belong to it, only they have not been caught. They say, and so it is understood, that the Rebels have adopted the plan of shooting every man who is not a Rebel, and that they are now endeavoring to destroy all his property, leaving his family with nothing but their rags. They show no mercy to a Union man. This is getting to be a hard game, particularly as it is one-sided. The Rebels know our Government is not here, not to destroy the people. We are all

waiting to have Gen. Grant conquer Lee, that we may be saved from fighting the Rebels as they are fighting us. I know of no one who so completely represents the Rebel style of fighting, and the paternal feeling of the Government as the following true story.

A man named Jones, living in Franklin County, in this State, had deserted three times, and had become desperate. Of course, he was a pure Copperhead. Hearing that a man named Ray, about 30 years old, recently married, had told where he could be found, he one day last week sought Ray to kill him. Ray had heard of his coming, and was armed with a double-barreled shot gun. Jones came up, and strange to say, he carried on his bosom his own child, about a year old, and commenced firing with his revolver. Ray told him for God's sake to give up the child, and fight him like a man; but he would not, and still fired. Heaven defended the right—and it will do so—for Ray fired, hitting Jones in the face; he turned around, and he fell down dead. The pleasant part of this account is, that the baby received only three little scratches. This happened about ten miles from Du Quoin, on the Illinois Central.

Cairo has become a great cotton center; vast piles of cotton are on every side, and every day there are arrivals. On Saturday came a barge with over 1,000 bales from Anichita River. Much of it is only tied, having no covering.

The Navy Department has been removed from this place to Mound City, six miles above.
Gen. Blair is here in command, and attracts attention. People remark that it is a pity a man of his ability should not be able to be on one side or the other. By last arrivals from New Orleans we learn that of late the Rebels, though they have done invaluable service, are expected. But such is the efficiency of the Mississippi fleet that the Rebels can never again get a footing on the river.

It is not long ago people thought the Government extravagant in building so many gunboats; this it still does at Cairo, and it will cost about \$1,000,000. The cost marked out by Gen. Fremont is still pursued. People laughed at the three boats he at first built, or altered from transports, that is, the Tyler, Lexington, and Connecticut, but they have done invaluable service, in fact, they greatly contributed to make Kentucky a loyal State.

The weather is warm, and the growing season of this year is fairly open.

FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.

Forrest and other Rebel Generals in Mississippi—They Hold a Review—Union Successes at Jackson and Bolivar.

Tenn.—The Threatened Attack on Sumner—Steele Fortifying Little Rock.

CAIRO, Wednesday, May 11, 1864.

The Rebel Generals Forrest, Chalmers, Roddy and Lee are said to be at Tupelo, where they had a grand review on Saturday.

An escaped Union cavalry officer reports Union successes at Jackson and Bolivar, Tenn.

The steamer Belle of Memphis had arrived from Memphis with 101 bales of cotton.

The steamer Commercial had arrived at Memphis from Little Rock, with 617 bales of cotton.

Gen. Steele's forces were actively engaged in fortifying Little Rock.

Rebel cavalry had gone in the direction of Fort Smith, and it was rumored that they had taken Dardanelle, a small town below Fort Smith.

It is said the Rebels did not carry out their system of slaughtering colored troops at the battle of Saline River, but took many of the wounded, dressed their wounds, and sent a flag of truce to Gen. Steele for an exchange of prisoners. The reason assigned for this is that the negroes during the whole of Gen. Steele's campaign took no prisoners.

A Rebel force is said to be in the immediate vicinity of Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

The Capture of Steele's Wagon Train.
[Extract of a letter from Capt. E. O. Morse, commanding Company D, 5th Kansas Cavalry, dated Pine Bluff, Ark., April 26, 1864, to a friend in this city.]
Yesterday a terrible disaster happened to our army. One of Gen. Steele's wagon trains, of over 240 wagons, was returning from Camden, with an escort of about 2,000 men, consisting of detachments from the 77th, 104th and 36th Iowa, 43d Indiana Infantry, 1st Indiana Cavalry, 7th Missouri Cavalry, 3d Kansas Cavalry, and 3d Missouri Artillery. When 40 miles from Pine Bluff, where the roads were bad, and the train had scattered along for six miles, we were attacked by a Rebel force of 6,000, and kept up a hard fight for four hours, till our ammunition was exhausted and the infantry were fighting with clubbed muskets. The first and second officers in command were killed. The enemy had taken our cannon and turned them upon ourselves. Then the cavalry rallied for a final assault and cut its way through, all but 50 or 60 arriving at Pine Bluff.

"Sergeant Dinkel of the 3d had charge of two guns. He fired till only four men were left of the twenty that he had at the beginning, and the enemy within twenty feet of him, when he cut his horses loose, spiked his guns, mounted, and fought his way out."

A Rebel Iron-Clad off Wilmington—She Is Driven In.
BOSTON, Thursday, May 12, 1864.
The Journal gives the following extract from a letter dated off New-Islet, near Wilmington, May 7: "Four Rebel steamers came out last night. One was the iron-clad North Carolina, similar to the Atlanta. She was supposed to be a blockade-runner, and was chased off. At daylight the iron-clad returned under the guns of the fort. The Houqua and Nanamond were near, and the Nippon was to the northward. One shot from the North Carolina went through the Houqua's smokestack. The other three Rebel steamers did not come out from under the guns of the fort. No attempt was made to prevent the iron-clad from getting back. Another visit is expected by daylight, when we shall probably see some warm work."

The Home for Little Wanderers.
To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.
SIR: We deeply regret that thousands who came to the Anniversary of the Howard Mission, had to go away for want of room. The doors were closed by those in charge of the building without our knowledge, and the fact that no more could get in. Had it occurred to us at the time, we should have secured Irving Hall as soon as the doors of the Academy were closed, and thus accommodated at least a portion of our friends who were disappointed. The following from a prominent gentleman is but the echo of many others: "What is the matter? Have the 'Little Wanderers' more friends than anybody else? If there is no building in New York large enough for them to have a reception in, suppose you try 'God's Temple,' with the key for a cent. Just think of the thousands who went away last night for want of room, saying, 'It is too bad.' I wish I had come earlier." I hope it is too late now to do so. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM D. HARRIS.

FROM THE RED RIVER.

Two Gunboats and Three Transports Destroyed.

DOUBTFUL STORY OF REBELS.

Burning to Death the Crew of the Steamer Emma.

GENERAL BANKS AT ALEXANDRIA.

Capture of a Picket Force Near Columbus, Ky.

CAIRO, Wednesday, May 11, 1864.

The dispatch-boat Gen. Lyon, from below, reports that on the 5th inst. the transports City Belle, Emma, and Warner, in passing a battery twelve miles below Alexandria, were fired upon and destroyed. The gunboat Signal was also destroyed by the battery, and the gunboat Covington was set on fire to prevent her falling into the hands of the Rebels. This battery is composed of guns captured from Gen. Banks.

It is reported that the Rebels boarded the steamer Emma, forced her crew into the hold, and then set fire to her. This report is not vouched for. Gen. Banks remains at Alexandria, and is strong enough to resist any attack made upon him.

During the fight above Alexandria, when the gunboat Juliet was destroyed, the Cricket, Admiral Porter's boat, suffered severely. Both engines were killed and many of the crew wounded.

On Saturday night a small band of guerrillas passed between the camp and picket-post of an expedition sent out by Gen. Pierce from Columbus, Ky., under Col. Moore. The guerrillas pointed upon our picket force near Mayfield, and captured all of them without our forces knowing anything about it until it was accomplished.

Gen. Canby and staff arrived at Cairo on Tuesday morning.

THE RED RIVER EXPEDITION.

Co-operative Naval Movements—Official Report of Admiral Porter.

MISSISSIPPI SQUADRON, FLAG-SHIP CRICKET.

OFF ALEXANDRIA, La., April 25, 1864.

SIR: I had the honor to receive from you, in my command, the report of the sinking of the Eastport on the 14th of April, and the sinking of the Rebel steamer Emma, and the capture of the gunboat Juliet and the gunboat Covington, which were destroyed by the explosion of a torpedo under her bottom, and near her bow. On hearing this bad news I proceeded at once to the vessel and found her sunk to the gun deck, the water over her to the mainmast.

I was told that the vessel was to be lost, and to Alexandria, in hopes of finding one of our steam pump-boats, then due. Lieutenant Commander Phelps had already sent a tug down for the same purpose, and as he passed over the Falls, the pump-boat was seen, and I sent her up, and she arrived at the Eastport about 10 o'clock.

I had ordered all her guns taken out, and all her ammunition transferred to our vessels, which was done on the 14th. I had also ordered her to be towed to Alexandria, and she was towed to the Eastport on the 15th.

I was detained a day in Alexandria, making a different disposition of the vessels in the Mississippi, and on the 16th I proceeded to the Eastport, and found the vessel in the hands of the Rebels, who had taken her to the Eastport, and she was towed to the Eastport on the 17th.

When I returned to the Eastport, I found her in a fair way of being lost, and I ordered her to be towed to Alexandria, and she was towed to the Eastport on the 18th.

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